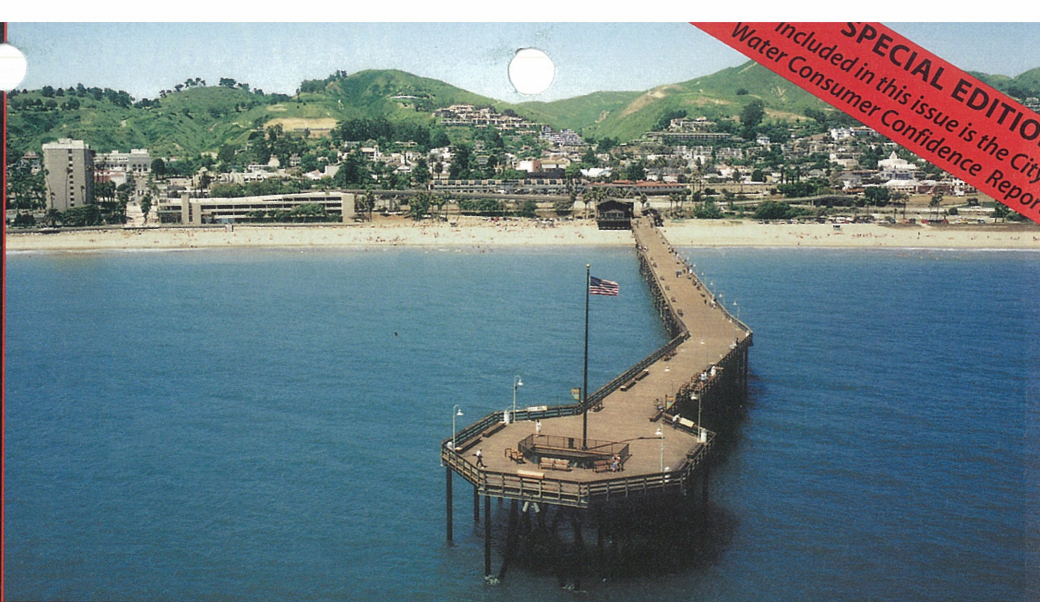


In This Issue:



- ▶ Increased Interest in Filming in Ventura
- ▶ Earth Expo 2003
- ▶ Water Consumer Confidence Report



June - August 2003

Issue No. 29

City of San Buenaventura's Community Newsletter



Coming this Fall...

EARTH EXPO 2003

Saturday, September 20
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Seaside Park
10 West Harbor Blvd.
Ventura, California
Free!

The City of Ventura Environmental Services Office, in cooperation with the California Department of Conservation and Seaside Park, present **EARTH EXPO 2003**.

- Join us for:
- Diverse speakers
 - Hands-on demonstrations
 - Experiential booths
 - Eco-friendly product displays
 - Music and art

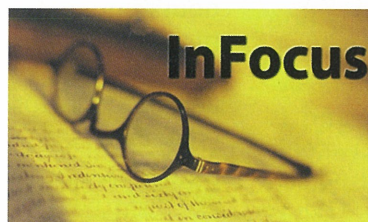
For more information about EARTH EXPO visit www.ci.ventura.ca.us or call 652-4525.



VENTURA COMMUNITY PARK

We are happy to announce that the groundbreaking of the Ventura Community Park was held on May 29. For updates on construction of the park and other information regarding the park visit our new website.

New Website! www.venturacommunitypark.org



InFocus

Increased Interest in Filming in Ventura

Ventura continues to keep its eye on filming as a resource to contribute to the economic vitality of the community.

How does filming generate revenue for the City?

Filming generates money for the City in a variety of ways. Production companies are billed for any costs incurred by the City such as police and fire services. Property owners are paid for the use of private property and local companies are often used for security services, supplies for set development, and traffic signage. *Erin Brockovich*, *Castaway* and *Swordfish* were filmed all or in part in Ventura.

Where has the City benefited from renovation due to filming?

Downtown Ventura has benefited from recent renovations, especially at Oak and Main Streets. The Bank of Books, the Bank of Italy building and Nicholby's were renovated all or in part by funds received from filming.

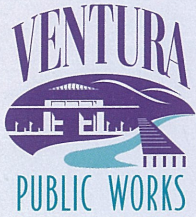


Recent filming of a McDonald's commercial along the promenade.

What recent filming has been done in Ventura?

The City has permitted several filming and still photography activities in recent months. In January 2003, McDonald's filmed a national commercial that featured the promenade and downtown Ventura. Balance Bar, the sports energy product, utilized the Ventura beach for a still photography ad campaign. Ventura's Grant Park has recently been used for commercials for both Ford and Toyota.

For more information about filming in Ventura contact Skip Robinson at 658-4732 or srobinson@ci.ventura.ca.us



The City of Ventura welcomes this opportunity to provide you with water quality information. This Water

Consumer Confidence Report was prepared in compliance with regulatory requirements. Ventura's Water Division aims to ensure the water provided meets or exceeds state and federal standards.

Local Water Sources

The City has three local water sources; each accounts for approximately one third of the entire water supply. A portion of Ventura's water is from the Ventura River near the Foster Park area and is pumped from four shallow wells. Water is also distributed from Lake Casitas, which is operated and treated by the Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD). Additional water is pumped from groundwater wells near the Buenaventura Golf Course, Ventura County Government Center and Saticoy. In order to produce, treat and distribute safe water to our customers, the City owns and operates these 13 wells, three water treatment plants, 23 booster pump stations, 26 water storage reservoirs and more than 350 miles of distribution pipelines.

Water Treatment

All of the City's water receives treatment. Water from the Ventura River is treated by a method referred to as Conventional Treatment. This process involves coagulation (chemical addition), flocculation (gentle agitation), sedimentation (settling particles), filtration and disinfection with chloramine. Additionally, the groundwater sources are treated to remove iron and manganese, and disinfected. CMWD treats the water with direct filtration from Lake Casitas prior to delivery into the City's system.

The City changed its water system disinfectant from Chlorine to Chloramines in December 2002. Chloramines are chemicals, that contain chlorine and ammonia. Chloramines were selected as the preferred disinfectant because of their ability to provide disinfection over an extended period, and for better taste and fewer

odors compared to using chlorine. Chloramines have been proven to help deliver water to customers with lower levels of trihalomethanes (TTHMs), which are potentially harmful byproducts of the chlorine disinfection process.

Although Chloramines are desirable in protecting the water distribution system, their use may require additional precautions for some water uses. If a member of your household requires dialysis, you should contact your physician or dialysis service provider to assure proper protective equipment is used. If you use tap water for fish or other aquatic animals, you will need to test and be sure the water is completely dechloraminated before use. Setting water in an open container for 24 hours prior to use with fish will not remove all chloramines in the water. Your local pet store can provide information and products for the proper removal of chloramines.

Water Quality Monitoring

Ventura owns and operates a full-scale, state-certified laboratory to monitor water quality. All treatment plants are run by state-certified operators and have instrumentation that continuously monitors specific water constituents to ensure that the water is of high quality.

In 2002, sampling and testing for Lead and Copper levels were completed. Of the 36 residential samples taken, only one exceeded the Copper regulatory action level, and no samples exceeded the Lead regulatory action level. In addition to the water quality constituents listed on the Water Quality Summary Table (see back page), the City sampled for many other regulated constituents, all of which were below detection limits.

Water Quality Studies

The City, with the help of security consultants, recently prepared a water system protection assessment. The purpose of the assessment was to prioritize and evaluate the critical water facilities pertaining to security measures that can help to minimize damage or contamination. The City has already and will continue to take steps to improve the protection of the water facilities by intruders.

The City updated the Sanitary Survey of the Ventura River Watershed in May 2001. This study recommended additional monitoring of the watershed for potential

Cryptosporidium, Giardia, Bacteria, Nutrients, Bromide, Total Organic Carbon, Chloride and Conductivity. In Spring 2002, the City began this additional monitoring at 15 sites along the river and tributaries.

A separate drinking water source assessment for Ventura River and groundwater wells was completed in January 2002. No contaminants have been detected in the water supply from surrounding sources. Gas stations, agricultural drainage, dry cleaners, urban run off, septic/sewer systems, metal plating/finishing and repair shops are considered the most probable sources of contamination of these water supplies.

As a water supplier, the City must complete an evaluation of its supply with respect to Public Health Goals (PHG) every three years. The City completed an evaluation in 2001, which determined the only element in our drinking water that exceeded any PHG was Copper. Copper is found in water as a result of the corrosion of Copper plumbing fixtures used in most homes. The mandatory Maximum Contaminant Level for Copper is 1300 parts per billion (ppb), the PHG is 170 ppb and the detected level was 720 ppb. The City water supply meets the mandatory standard.

Potential Concerns

In order to ensure tap water is safe, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Health Services prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The City of Ventura treats its water according to these regulations. The regulations of the Food and Drug Administration establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for the public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick

up contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that could be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture and livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Some people are more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals, such as people with cancer, those undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections and are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illnesses. The City encourages immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctors regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection.

The City takes precautions to eliminate the risk of infection from microbial contaminants, including Giardia and Crypto-

sporidium, from its water system. These organisms are found in surface water throughout the U.S., and ingesting them may cause an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. To evaluate the possible risks present in the Ventura River Watershed, the City tested for these contaminants, finding Cryptosporidium at only one raw water location in the Foster Park area. The City's treatment processes for surface water include coagulation, filtration and Chloramine disinfection to remove or kill these organisms. The USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Water Quality Terminology

The Ventura's Water Quality Summary on the back page shows constituents measured in Ventura's water and reported to the State Department of Health Services, and in some cases the USEPA. Some of the terminology used is described below:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary (health related) MCLs are set as close to the Public Health Goals (PHGs) or Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary (aesthetically related) MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to one's health. MCLGs are set by the USEPA.

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected

risk to one's health. The California Environmental Protection Agency sets PHGs.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs are set by the USEPA.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Regulatory Action Level (RAL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

For More Information

👉 If you would like more information regarding water quality, please contact Ventura's Water Superintendent at 652-4500. This Water Consumer Confidence Report is also available on the City's website at www.ci.ventura.ca.us

👉 You are also invited to express your opinions at City Council meetings held each Monday at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Ventura City Hall, 501 Poli Street.

👉 Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para más información, por favor llame 658-4785.

Your City Council

Ray Di Guilio, Mayor
Brian Brennan, Deputy Mayor
Neal Andrews, Councilmember
James J. Friedman, Councilmember
James L. Monahan, Councilmember
Carl E. Morehouse, Councilmember
Sandy E. Smith, Councilmember

City Councilmembers may be reached by e-mail at council@ci.ventura.ca.us or by calling 654-7827. This number is answered during business hours by City staff.

FutureFocus Newsletter is published six times a year for residents by the City of San Buenaventura. We welcome your suggestions. Please send comments to:

Editor, *FutureFocus* Newsletter • P.O. Box 99 • Ventura, CA 93002
knicely@ci.ventura.ca.us
Marketing & Public Affairs Division (805) 677-3914

Editor: Kelly V. Nicely • Graphic Design: Karen Grahek Moser
Masthead Photo: WP Photographic Services, Ventura
© Copyright 2003 City of San Buenaventura, All Rights Reserved

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this document is available in alternate formats by calling 654-7850 or 654-7766 TDD.

Ventura's Water Quality Summary 2003

Utilizing data collected in 2002. Only water quality constituents detected by laboratory testing appear in the chart.

PRIMARY STANDARDS (PDWS)	Units	Maximum Level MCL	State Goal PHG	Ventura River Average	Ventura River Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	CMWD Average	CMWD Range	Major Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Water Clarity Treated Turbidity	NTU	TT	NA	0.11	0.1 - 0.11	NA	NA	0.4	0.4	Process and source variations.
Radioactive Contaminants Gross Alpha particle activity (c)	pCi/l	15	NA	3.8	2.1 - 5.8	6.7	2.7 - 12.1	1.3	0.9 - 2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta particle activity (c)	pCi/l	50	NA	4	ND - 8.0	8	ND - 15.8	NA	NA	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Radium 226 and 228 (c)	pCi/l	5	NA	0.63	ND - 1.7	1.1	ND - 1.7	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium (c)	pCi/l	20	0.5	2.4	1.8 - 3.4	5.1	2.8 - 8.5	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants Arsenic	ppb	50	NA	ND	ND	ND	ND	2.3	2.3	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production waste.
Fluoride	ppm	2	1	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	0.6	0.5 - 0.7	0.3	0.2 - 0.4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	0.6	ND - 0.8	0.7	ND - 0.8	ND	ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

PRIMARY STANDARDS for Distribution System	Units	MCL MRDL	PHG (MCLG) MRDLG	Distribution System Average	Distribution System Range	Major Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Disinfection Chlorine Residual	ppm	4	4	1.2	0.25 - 2.2	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Disinfection By Products Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	NA	51 (d)	15 - 76	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	NA	33 (d)	2 - 63	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Microbiological Contaminants Total Coliform Bacteria	NA	5%	0	0	0	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	NA	0	0	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste.

LEGEND

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detectable

NS: No standard

NTU: Turbidity, a measure of the clarity or cloudiness of the water.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

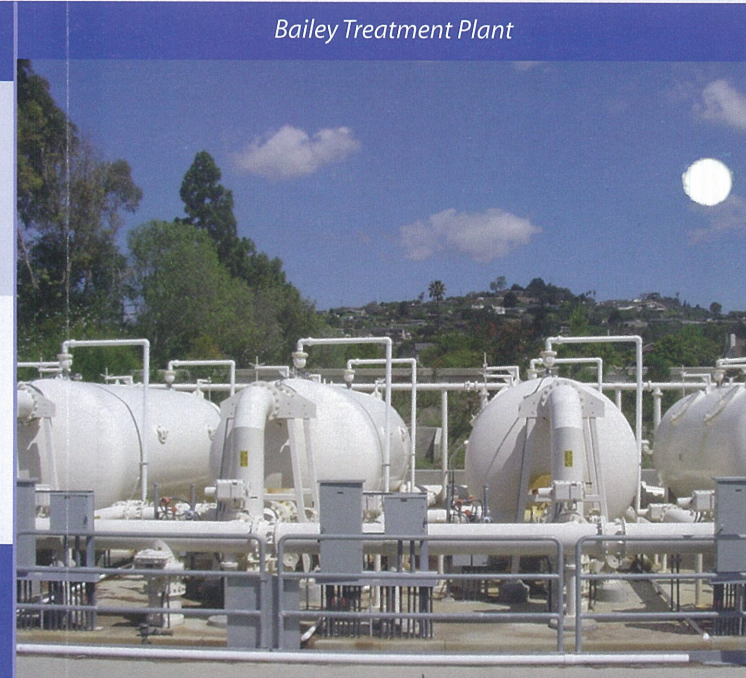
pCi/l: Picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity in water.

CMWD: Casitas Municipal Water District

TT (*): Treatment Techniques. The approved filtration technology used for performance standards that must be met through the water treatment process.

Lead and Copper Samples	Units	RAL	PHG	Samples Collected	Above RAL	90th Percentile	Major Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Lead	ppb	15	2	2	36 (e)	0	3
Copper	ppm	1.3	0.17	0.17	36 (e)	1	1.1

SECONDARY STANDARDS		Maximum Level MCL	Ventura River Average	Ventura River Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	CMWD Average	CMWD Range	
Aesthetic Standards	Color	15	ND	ND - 20	4.4	ND - 15	2	1 - 2	
	Odor	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	1	1	
	Chloride	500	32	27 - 46	67	49 - 92	12	11 - 13	
	Corrosivity	ppm	Non corrosive	0.26	-14 - 0.43	0.58	1.09	-0.1	0.0 - 0.1
	Iron (*)	ppb	300	ND	ND	ND - 600	NS	NS	
	Total dissolved solids	ppm	1000	551	478 - 767	1167	984 - 1396	340	340
	Specific conductance	umhos	1600	766	695 - 819	1574	1236 - 1835	518	490 - 570
	Sulfate	ppm	500	193	166 - 233	565	456 - 713	130	130
Additional Constituents	pH	pH units	6.5 - 8.5	7.7	7.5 - 7.9	7.6	7.2 - 8.0	NA	NA
	Hardness	ppm	NS	336	262 - 390	620	534 - 766	219	219
	Calcium	ppm	NS	88	67 - 105	169	141 - 210	NA	NA
	Magnesium	ppm	NS	28	23 - 31	48	37 - 59	NA	NA
	Manganese (*)	ppb	50	ND	ND	ND - 90	NA	NA	
	Sodium	ppm	NS	36	31 - 41	128	85 - 166	22	22
	Phosphate	ppm	NS	0.2	0.13 - 0.47	0.1	0.03 - 0.31	NA	NA
	Potassium	ppm	NS	2.4	2.2 - 2.7	4.5	3.6 - 5.7	NA	NA
	Total Alkalinity	ppm	NS	169	144 - 220	254	213 - 278	NA	NA
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCMR)	Units	Ventura River Average	Ventura River Range	CMWD Detection	CMWD Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range		
Boron	ppb	388	299 - 439	178	115 - 241	604	454 - 746		
Vanadium	ppb	3.3	2.4 - 4.3	ND	ND	4.9	3.5 - 5.3		



Footnotes: (a) Average is maximum reading. Avenue Plant TT= 95% of samples equal or below 0.5 NTU (b) Average is maximum reading. CMWD TT= 95% of samples equal or below 0.2 NTU (c) All radiological samples were taken in 1998 through 2001. Figure is an average of four samples. (d) Highest running average. (e) Samples were taken at selected households on a first draw in August 2002.